

CLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET~~ - U.S.

COUNTRY	East Germany	NOFORN	REPORT	
TOPIC	Finow Airfield and Estate			25X1
EVALUATION		PLACE OBTAINED		25X1
DATE OF CONTENT				
DATE OBTAINED		DATE PREPARED	28 September 1955	
REFERENCES				
PAGES	3	ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)	1 sketch on ditto	
REMARKS				
This is UNEVALUATED Information				25X1

1. The following air activity and aircraft were observed at Finow airfield between 11 July and 4 August 1955: 25X1
- 11 to 13 July. Between 0600 and 1900, there was air activity by MiG-15s, U-MiG-15s or MiG-17s. Take-offs and landings were practiced.
- 14 July. There was no air activity.
- 15 July. Between 0600 and 1900, there was air activity by jet fighters of both types. At 1415, one Il-28 landed and took off again at 1515.
- 16 and 17 July. No observations were made.
- 18, 19, and 20 July. MiG-15s, U-MiG-15s or MiG-17s made local flights.
- 18, 21, and 22 July. There was night air activity by both jet fighter types.
- 23 July. At 0600, air activity by MiG-15s, U-MiG-15s or MiG-17s started. One aircraft towing a sleeve target was seen.
- 24 July. No observations were made.
- 25 July. At 2000, night air activity by MiG-15s, U-MiG-15s or MiG-17s started.
- 1 August. At 0600 there was air activity by both jet fighter types. At 1000, 9 MiG-15s or MiG-17s flying in squadron wedge formation approached the field. After the formation has been dispersed, the aircraft dived with extended diving brakes on the tails individually at the middle of the field. At 2100, night air activity by both jet fighter types started.
- 2 and 3 August. Between 0600 and 1300 and at 2100, there was air activity by MiG-15s, U-MiG-15s, or MiG-17s.
- 4 August. At 0600, air activity by both jet fighter types started. At 0615, one Il-28 landed at the field.
- During the period under observation, almost exclusively take-offs and landings were practiced. Formation flights were only observed at one day. Generally, the flights lasted for 15 to 20 minutes.¹

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3. The so-called "Rotes Gestell" between triangulation point 36.5 and Biesenthaler-Strasse was a concrete lane. A total of 13 aircraft revetments were observed on both sides of this lane, in addition to three revetments, which were located west of the former Mechower-Strasse, north of "Schwarzer Weg", behind the intersection of "Rotes Gestell". The latter revetments were aircraft

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shaped, had narrow entrances, walls as high as a plane, and were covered with white plates on the inner sides. A small shelter was embedded in the inner wall shortly behind the entrance. Two temporary buildings housing Soviet soldiers were located 200 meters south of triangulation point 36.1 between Forest Districts Nos 185 and 186. These buildings presumably served as guardrooms for the sentries on the southern airfield edge.

4. At 0700 on 21 July, the Token set was in operation east of Finow estate. The speed of a rotation was 18 to 20 seconds. A second Kniferest set was erected near the Kniferest set which was located about 200 meters south of the ramp of workshop II. At 0700, one of these sets was in operation. The Kniferest set, which was previously located at the intersection of Menningfliess Brook and the cable, was no longer observed. A mast, about 12 meters high, was erected at this place. The mast had a bracket-like crossbeam on its top. A basket-like figure was mounted vertical to the crossbeam. The mast was braced with four guy wires without insulators.² On 23 July, only one of the two Kniferest sets was observed on their previous position at the eastern runway end.

5. The following motor traffic was observed:

23 July. At 1000, truck [redacted] with driver wearing black-bordered red epaulets and belonging to the Special Bureau at Eberswalde, picked up masts at workshop No 1. At 1740, truck [redacted] with driver wearing black-bordered light-blue epaulets, moved from Biesenthaler Strasse to Finow airfield.

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2 August. At 1500, 10 two-axle open armored motor vehicles with four-wheel drive were observed in the area of Forest District No 222, north of "Schwarzer Weg". These vehicles carried personnel wearing black-bordered red epaulets.

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At 1540, three-axle rad [redacted]
moved from Biesenthaler- [redacted]
fitted with a telescopic [redacted]

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At 1600, truck [redacted]

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6. Between 1 and 6 August, [redacted] at Finow airfield except on 2 August, when one Yak-11 was observed in the Finow air space. At 0800 on 6 August, the following aircraft were stationed at Finow airfield: 2 MiG-15s, U-MiG-15s, or MiG-17s were seen aloft; 4 MiG-15s or MiG-17s (no two-seaters) were parked as alert flight in the northeastern corner of the field. 8 MiG-15s or MiG-17s (no two-seaters) [redacted] were parked at the take-off point at the eastern edge of the field; approximately 6 to 8 MiG-15s, U-MiG-15s, or MiG-17s were seen at the southern edge of the field; and about 40 MiG-15s, U-MiG-15s or MiG-17s were parked at the northern edge. No Po-2s or Yak-11s were observed at the airfield.

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7. A wooden building, about 10 x 8 meters with brick foundation, wooden structure, and brick gable roof, was completed in the northeastern corner of Finow airfield, just at Biesenthaler-Strasse. The window shutters of this building were closed. The purpose of the building could not yet be determined.

8. At 0800 on 6 August, the firing position was equipped with 5x37-mm AA guns.

9. Trucks [redacted] were observed at Finow airfield and in the Post-Strasse restricted area.

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10. On the morning of 11 August, about 30 soldiers wearing black-bordered blue epaulets were observed in the groundfloor of the building located at the northwestern edge of Finow estate. Another 30 soldiers, also wearing black-bordered blue epaulets, were playing in a ball game north of this building. Two soldiers were observed at the radio truck on building No 4. One captain (commanding officer) and 6 lieutenants and senior lieutenants, who wore black bordered blue epaulets, were seen at Finow estate during the whole day.

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Searchlight truck [] which was observed on 3 August at Finow estate, was no longer seen on 4 August. On 15 August, this truck moved on Bisenthaler Strasse toward the motor vehicle park just south of Finow railroad station. Searchlight trucks were already observed previously, at this vehicle park. The motor vehicle park at Finow estate consisted of 3 trucks, 2 van-like trucks, 1 radio truck without antenna, 1 generator on a 2-axle undercarriage, 2 meters long, about 1.5 meters wide, and about 1.5 meters high, and 1 radio truck in a building at the southwestern portion of Finow estate. It was definitely observed, that the VHF antenna was not mounted on the roof of this building but belonged to the radio truck. This antenna passed through the roof.³

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11. Between 1300 and 1800 on 15 August, there was no air activity at Finow airfield. 36 MiG-15s, U-MiG-15s, or MiG-17s were counted at the field.
12. The AA gun emplacement in the southeastern corner of the field was equipped with 6x37-mm AA guns.
13. The Token set remained unchanged north of the airfield.
14. Between the afternoon and 2300 on 4 August, there was intensive air activity at Finow airfield. Jet fighters practiced flying in cooperation with searchlights. At 0920 on 8 August, 6 Po-2s flew over the airfield.
15. At 0810 on 4 August, tracks of tanks were seen on the paths in the woods between the railroad line and Finower-Weg.

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1. [] Comment. The pilots at Finow airfield were presumably retrained on MiG-17s.
2. [] Comment. The Kniferest set was reported previously. Similar masts with baskets were previously erected on German training grounds and indicated firing with live ammunition.
3. [] Comment. For sketch of the antenna, see Annex.

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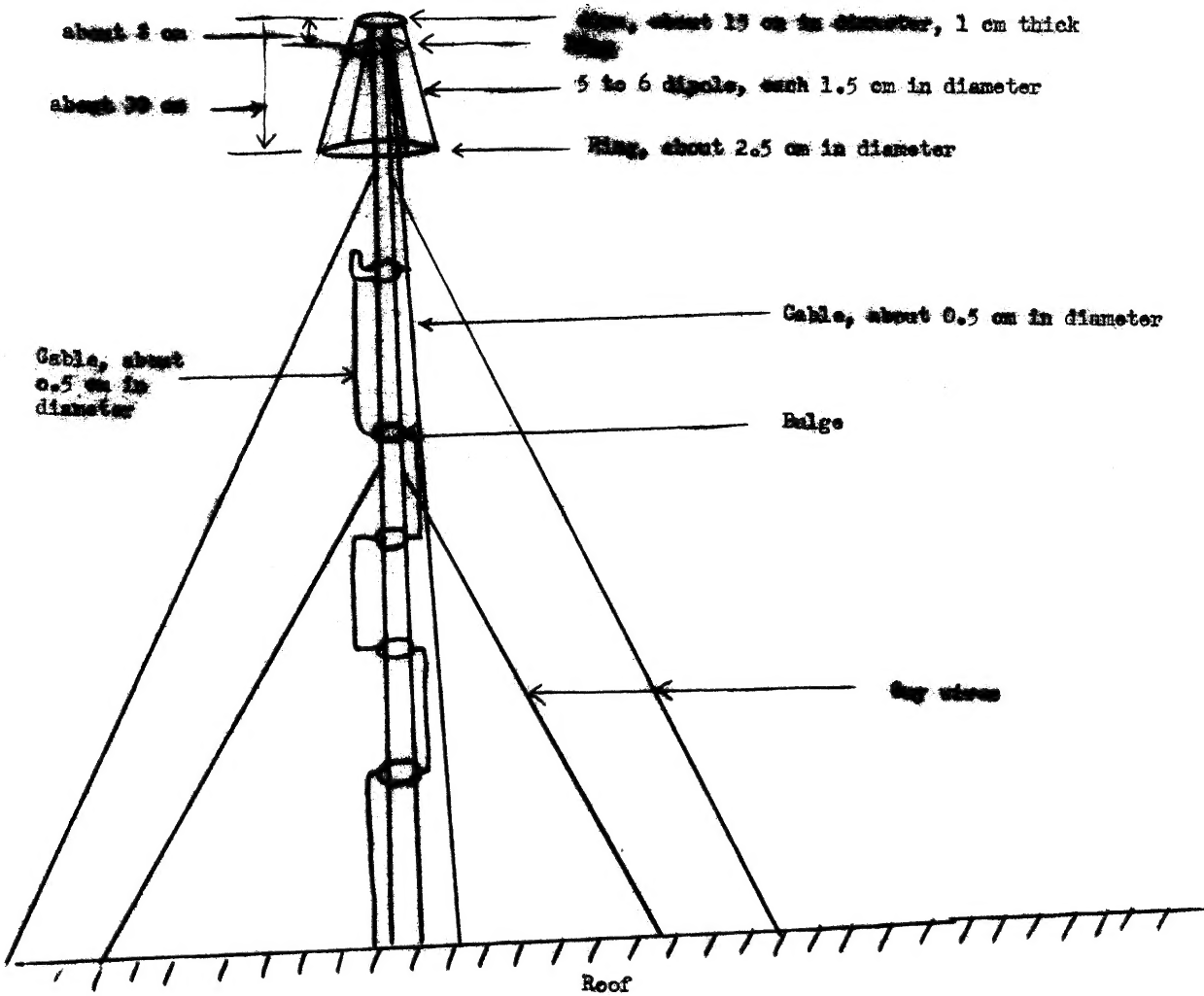
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Annex

VHF Antenna at Pinow Estate



Height from roof to disc: 6 to 7 meters

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